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Articles to be Enquired of within the Arch-deaconry of *Northampton*,

At the Visitation of the right Worshipfull JOHN QUARLES, *Arch-Deacon there, holden* An. Dom. 1639.

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The Tenor of the Oath to be miniſtred to the Church-wardens Sworne-men.

YOu ſhall ſweare, that all affection, favour, hatred, hope of reward and gaine, or feare of diſpleaſure, or malice ſet aſide, you ſhall upon due conſideration of the Articles given you in charge, preſent all and every ſuch perſon of or within your Pariſh, as hath committed any offence mentioned in theſe, or any of theſe Articles, or which are vehemently ſuſpected, and defamed of any ſuch offence: wherein you ſhall diſcharge your Conſciences uprightly, and according to truth; neither of malice preſenting any contrary to truth, nor of corrupt affection ſparing to preſent any, and ſo conceale the truth: having in this Action God before your eyes, with an earneſt zeale to maintaine truth, and to ſuppreſſe vice: ſo helpe you God, and the Contents of his holy Goſpell.

Articles

SB 2141/12

Articles to be inquired of within the Arch-Deaconry of *Northampton*: at the Visitation of the Right Worshipfull *John Quarles*, Arch-deacon there, holden *Anno Domini* 1639.

And presentment to bee made thereof by the *Church-wardens and Side-men, for that purpose lawfully appointed, in Visitations, Synods, or else where, within the Iurisdiction afore-said, at any other time* and place, when occasion shall be offered, with particular Answer to every ARTICLE.

WHether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate be lawfully licenced (in writing) to preach, and doth preach every Sunday according to the Law in that behalfe?

2. Whether hee doth reverently say or read Divine publicke Service every Sunday and Holy-day, and administer the holy Sacraments according to the Booke of Common Prayer, without any alteration of any part thereof?

3. Whether doth he at every time that he doth celebrate Divine publicke Service, or administer the holy Sacraments, weare the Surplice, (and also a Hood answerable to his degree, if he be a Graduate) and use and observe other the Rites and Ceremonies appointed by the Lawes now in force, and particularly the Crosse in Baptisme, the Ring in Marriage, and to administer the holy Communion to himselfe kneeling, and to those onely that kneele at the time of the receiving thereof?

4. Whether you have a comely Pulpit well placed within your Church, a decent Table on a frame for the holy Communion, with a faire linnen cloth to lay upon the same, and some Carpet or covering of Silke, or such like, for the cleane keeping thereof: a faire comely Communion Cup and Cover of Silver for the same, and a de-

cent large Surplice with ſleeves, one Booke of the whole Bible in the largeſt volume in Engliſh, a Communion booke, *Eraſmus* Paraphraſe, Biſhop *Iewells* workes, the two Tomes of Homilies, the booke of Canons, the booke called *God and the King*, a poore mans Boxe, a Cheſt with three locks, and all other things neceſſary, and appointed to be had by lawfull authority?

5. Whether you have had monthly Sermons at the leaſt, in your Pariſh Church, if your Miniſter be no Preacher licenſed, and weekely if he be a licenſed Preacher? And whether are the Homiles read when there is no Sermon?

6. Whether is your Parſon or Vicar knowne, or by common fame noted, to have come to his Benefice by Symony, or to follow Lay, and Secular Trades and courſes, or doth neglect or leave his calling of the Miniſtery, or the due performance thereof?

7. Whether any perſon, not being Deacon, is ſuffered to ſay Divine Service in your Church, or to adminiſter the holy Sacraments, or to marry any perſons, or to bury the dead? And whether doth any take upon them to preach, or to ſerve the Cure with you, that doth not once in the yeare at the leaſt celebrate Divine publicke Service himſelfe in the Church, and adminiſter the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, according to the forme of the Booke of Common Prayer?

8. Whether your Lecturer, or Preacher, or your Parſon, or Vicar, though he have a Curate, yet doth he himſelfe twice in each yeare, on two ſeverall Sundayes, both before noone, and afternoone celebrate Divine publicke Service: and as often each yeare adminiſter the holy Sacraments of Baptiſme, and the Lords Supper?

9. VVhether your Parſon or Vicar be continually reſident upon his Benefice, and upon his Parſonage-houſe or Vicarage-houſe? and whether he hath any more Benefices or Cures than one? And if hee have, whether then doth he keepe ſuch a Curate as is a preaching Miniſter, and lawfully licenſed, upon, and at that Benefice, where himſelfe your ſaid Parſon or Vicar doth not dwell, reſide, or continue?

10. Whether your Parſon, Vicar, or Curate have publickly or otherwiſe, ſpoken againſt the Order or government of the Church of *England*, or the booke of Common prayer eſtabliſhed by Law?

11. Whether your Miniſter doth uſe to pray for the Kings moſt excellent Majeſty, by the ſame Stile and Title due to his Majeſty, and doth uſe at, or before his Sermon the ſame forme of Prayer that is ſet downe in the 55. Canon?

12. Whe-

12. Whether your Minister doth openly in the Church catechize such as be of convenient age, according to the Order set forth in the booke of Common prayer, by the space of halfe an houre before Evening Prayer every Sunday and Holy-day? And who bee negligent in comming to be catechized? And hath your said Minister in all and every his afternoone Sermons expounded the severall points and heads of the Catechisme, and taken his Text out of the Creed, Ten Commandements, or the Lords Prayer, and not otherwise?

13. Whether hath your Minister refused or delayed to Christen any child or children within your Parish, which have dyed after unbaptized, or doe refuse or delay to bury any dead corps?

14. Whether all persons above sixteene yeeres of age doe repaire to the Church upon Sundayes and Holy-dayes? And whether have any absented themselves from Church or Divine publick Service there celebrated, contrary to the Law, and how many severall times within the last yeere, and who hath so done? And have any omitted to receive the holy Communion thrice at the least every yeare; whereof once to be at *Easter*, and that kneeling reverently, as by law they are bound, and who are they that doe not receive kneeling, or not thrice in each yeare?

15. Doe you know any that have sold, lost, or suffered to decay, or made away any of the Bells, Clocke, Chymes, or other goods belonging to the Church; or doe with-hold any of the Church-stocke or goods: and whether any Lands, goods, or chattels belonging to the Church, be not used and imployed as by Law they ought to be?

16. Doe you know any common swearer, drunkard, or blasphemer; any Simoniacall person, or any Broker or Mediator in, or for Simony; any Usurer, Witch, Conjurer, Southsayer, Charmer inquirable by Ecclesiasticall Lawes; any Fornicator, Adulterer, incestuous person; or any that harboured incontinent persons, and caused or suffered them to depart without doing pennance, or any vehemently suspected, or by common fame noted or infamed of any such crimes?

17. Whether doe any practise Physicke, or Chyrurgery, or doth any Schoole-master teach either openly or privately in any Schoole, Gentlemens houses, or otherwise? Or any Curate serve the Cure within your Parish, without licence of his Ordinary, under his authenticke Seale, or no?

18. Whether doe you know any that obstinately defend heresies, schismes, or false doctrines?

19. Whe-

19. Whether know you any person excommunicated in your Parish? Doth your Minister denounce him, and all other excommunicated persons in your Parish-Church or Chappell? And whether doth any such excommunicated person repaire to the Church to heare Divine Service or Sermons? And whether any in your Parish doe keepe company with, or set on worke any such excommunicated person, and what be their names that doe so?

20. Whether your Church or Chancell, or the Steeple, Bells, Seates, Leads, Pavements, Glasse-windows, Roofe, or walles of the same, or the Parsonage or Vicarage-houses be ruinous or decay'd, and by whose default? And whether is your Church-yard cleanely kept, and the walls and bounds of your Church-yard in good and sufficient repaire?

21. Doe you know of any that use Conventicles, or meetings for expounding of Scriptures, or saying of prayers in private houses or places?

22. Whether you know in your Parish any receivers of Iesuites, Seminary or Massing-Priests, and what be the names and Surnames of all Recusants, or halfe Recusants, that come not to Church to heare Divine Service: or if they doe, that yet doe not receive the holy Communion as by law they ought?

23. Whether you know any person within your Parish ordered by Law to doe pennance, or excommunicate for not doing the same, that hath omitted or escaped from doing the same: or that having done pennance, doth still continue in, or againe commit his former sinne in the like?

24. Whether you have any in your Parish married within the degrees of Consanguinity, or affinity forbidden by the Law, or have beene married without the publick asking of Banes thrice there, or being contracted, doe live suspiciously without Marriage?

25. Whether have any quarrelled, brawled, fought, or used violence in your Church or Church-yard: or have kept open their shop-windows or doores, or sold or bought any wares upon the Sabbath-day, or holy-dayes in the time of Divine Service; or have received any into their house to eate, drinke, or play in the time of Sermon or Divine Service; or have administred upon the goods of the dead, without authority from the Ordinary: or that detaine any Legacies given to the poore, or to godly uses?

26. Whether the Register booke of Marriages, Christenings, and Burials

Burials within your Parish be made of Parchment, and be kept, and read, and also subscribed every Sabbath day; and other things concerning the same be observed, according to the late Canons made and established by authority in that behalfe?

27. Whether in the Rogation-weeke, the perambulation in your Parish hath beene gone every yeere, as by Law it ought; or by whose default it hath not?

28. Whether any in your Parish have covered his head in time of Divine Service, contrary to the 18. Canon; any that doe not kneele at the saying of the generall confession, Letany, Ten Commandements, and any other prayers read in your said Church: any that doe not stand up at the saying of the Beleefe, or not bow and use reverence, when in time of Divine Service the Name of *Iesus* is read or mentioned?

29. Whether any come late or negligently to Church to publick prayers, or depart before Divine Service or Sermon is ended?

30. Whether the fift of *November* be observed, according as his ordained in that behalfe?

31. Whether there be any married woman delivered of a child, that hath not beene Churched, or made publicke thankesgiving according to Law?

32. Whether any that be contracted in Marriage, doe deferre the Solemnization thereof; or any being married, that doe live apart, or not together, as by Law they ought?

33. Whether have your old Church-wardens, or any before them, omitted to make a true and perfect account to the Parish of their said Office? Have they concealed or omitted any offences presentable, and punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes, or the common fame of them? Have you a booke wherein the names of all strange Preachers that preach in your Parish, are registred or written? And is it kept, and used, and subscribed according to Law in that behalfe?

34. Have any Trees beene felled, or cut downe in your Church-yard, and by whom?

35. Are the Ten Commandements set up in the East end of your Church, and other chosen Sentences of Scripture, and none other written upon the walles of the Church or Chancell in convenient places: And the Table of the degrees of Marriage prohibited, set forth 1562?

36. Hath your Minister read over the booke of *Canons* publickly

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in your Church once every yeere upon some Sundayes or Holy-dayes in the afternoone, before Divine Service?

37. Is there a sufficient Terrear of all the Glebe-land belonging to your Parsonage or Vicarage, and exhibited into the Registers Office, as by Law it ought?

38. Doth your Minister weare any cut or pink't apparrell? Doth he in publicke goe in Doublet and Hose without a Coat or Cassock? doth he weare any light-coloured stockins, or any Coife or wrought Night-cap? Doth he usually weare a Gowne with a standing collar, or Cloake with sleeves, commonly called a Priests Cloake, without any gards, welts, long buttons, or cuts, according to the 74. *Canon*?

39. Doth any in your Parish refuse to pay to the Clarke or Sexton, such wages or dues as have beene to them accustomably paid?

40. Whether have any unreverently used your Minister, or layd violent hands upon him, or disgraced his Office or calling by word or deed?

41. Have any abused the Church-wardens, or Sidesmen of your Parish, or given them ill words for doing their Office according to their Oath and Duty?

42. Whether doe you know any other matter worthy of presentment above not expressed, the reformation whereof belongeth to the Ecclesiasticall Court, which you shall likewise present by vertue of your Oaths, with the Names and Surnames of all such as have in them, or in any of them offended, or by common fame so thought to have offended?

FINIS.